

Message Text

PAGE 01 PARIS 13109 01 OF 02 141538 Z

44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 IO-12 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 TRSE-00 EB-11 COME-00 AID-20

RSR-01 /148 W

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R 121156 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0054

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PARIS 13109

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, MARR, JA, FR, VS, VR

SUBJECT: FRANCO/ JAPANESE TALKS

BEGIN SUMMARY. FRENCH AND JAPANESE OFFICIALS SAID THAT PRESS ACCOUNTS ACCURATELY AND COMPLETELY REFLECTED OHIRA VISIT TO JAPAN, BUT WE HAVE RECENTLY RECEIVED SLIGHT AMPLIFICATIONS FROM FRENCH AND PARTICULARLY JAPANESE. FRENCH AND JAPANESE ACCOUNTS SHOW THERE WAS NOTHING SURPRISING IN THE POLITICAL TALKS, BUT JAPANESE GAVE US A FULLER ACCOUNT OF THEIR PRESENTATION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF RELATIONS WITH US AND THEIR SECURITY INTEREST IN THE KOREAN PROBLEM. IN ECONOMIC MATTERS, THE JAPANESE SAID OHIRA STRESSED THE SHIFT IN GOJ EMPHASIS FROM EXPORTS TO INTERNAL CONSUMPTION AND THE CORRESPONDING PROCESS OF LIBERALIZING JAPANESE PRACTICES INHIBITING FOREIGN IMPORTS AND INVESTMENTS. THE FRENCH WERE IMPRESSED AT WHAT THEY CONSIDERED THE EARNESTNESS OF THE NEW LINE AND THE IMPLICATION THAT IT MAY IN PART BE A RESPONSE TO INTERNAL PRESSURES. END
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PAGE 02 PARIS 13109 01 OF 02 141538 Z

SUMMARY.

1. FRENCH VIEWS: QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR ASIAN AFFAIRS DUZER SAID THAT THERE WAS NOTHING REMARKABLE

WHICH EMERGED FROM THE FRANCO- JAPANESE POLITICAL TOUR D' HORIZON. THE JAPANESE GAVE PREDICTABLE VIEWS OF CHINA AND THE USSR. JAPANESE EXPLAINED THEIR POLICY OF SUPPORT FOR THE ROK AND PRUDENT APPROACH TOWARD NORTH KOREA. THE FRENCH EXPLAINED THAT FOR GEOGRAPHIC REASONS THEIR VIEWS WERE DIFFERENT, BUT THEY AGREED THAT THE NORTH/ SOUTH CONVERSATIONS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED. (FRENCH SAID PARENTHETICALLY THAT THEY WOULD ABSTAIN ON BOTH POSTPONEMENT AND MEMBERSHIP VOTES CONCERNING NORTH KOREAN

MEMBERSHIP IN WHO.)

2. DUZER SAID THAT THE MOST SIGNIFICANT DISCUSSION WAS OF ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. ALTHOUGH FRENCH HAD EXPECTED JAPANESE TO REAFFIRM THEIR INTENTION TO LIBERALIZE THEIR TRADE AND INVESTMENT POLICIES TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PROBLEMS WITH US AND OTHER COUNTRIES, THEY WERE SOMEWHAT SURPRISED AT DIRECTNESS OF JAPANESE STATEMENT THE GOJ WOULD SHIFT THE ECONOMIC EMPHASIS FROM EXPORTS TO INTERNAL CONSUMPTION. JAPANESE CITED INTERNAL PRESSURES AS ONE OF THE REASONS FOR THIS SHIFT. FRENCH CONSIDERED THAT OBVIOUSLY JAPANESE ENVISAGED A LONG TERM PROGRAM WHICH WOULD ENTAIL SOME DRASTIC RESTRUCTURING OF THE JANESE ECONOMY AND SOCIETY. THEY WERE IMPRESSED BY OHIRA' S SERIOUSNESS. FRENCH COMPLAINED ABOUT VARIOUS ADMINISTRATIVE (NON- TARIF) PRACTICES WHICH INHIBIT FRENCH EXPORTERS AND INVESTORS, AND OHIRA ASSURED THE FRENCH THE GOJ WAS UNDERTAKING LIBERALIZATION MEASURES. FRENCH SAID JAPANESE COMPLAINTS ABOUT EC PROBLEMS WOULD BE HANDLED AT THE SEPTEMBER GATT MEETING IN TOKYO.

E. JAPANESE AND FRENCH DISCUSSED THE URANIUM ENRICHMENT PROGRAM AND TENTATIVELY EXPLORED OTHER ASPECTS OF SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION INCLUDING SPACE PROGRAMS. THEY ALSO DISCUSSED TANAKA VISIT TO FRANCE IN THE AUTUMN AND THE CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PARIS 13109 01 OF 02 141538 Z

POMPIDOU VISIT TO JAPAN IN APRIL 1974.

4. JAPANESE VIEWS: KATO YOSHIYA, JAPANESE COUNSELOR, SAID THAT JAPANESE BEGAN THEIR TOUR D' HORIZON OF ASIAN POLITICS WITH THEIR PRESENTATION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF JAPAN/ US RELATIONS. THE GOJ CONSIDERS THE SECURITY TREATY TO BE ESSENTIAL NOT ONLY FOR JAPANESE SECURITY, BUT ALSO AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IN THE MAINTENANCE OF STABILITY IN ASIA, INCLUDING THE STATUS QUO IN KOREA AND TAIWAN. THE JAPANESE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH THE USSR AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE PRC, WERE NOT UNDERTAKEN AT THE EXPENSE OF THE SECURITY TREATY.

5. IN ADDITION, THE US IS JAPAN' S PRINCIPAL TRADING PARTNER. THE TANAKA ADMINISTRATION HAS ADOPTED A POLICY OF LIBERALIZATION, OF OPENING ITS MARKET TO US IMPORTS AND INVESTMENTS IN RESPONSE TO THE US BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PROBLEMS. JAPAN HAS CHANGED ITS POLICY FROM AND EMPHASIS ON EXPORTS TO AN EMPHASIS ON CONSUMPTION, IMPROVING THE WELFARE OF THE JAPANESE PEOPLE.

6. USSR. A BASIC ELEMENT IN JAPAN/ USSR RELATIONS IS THE TERRITORIAL PROBLEM IN WHICH THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN THE USSR ATTITUDE. HOWEVER, THE USSR IS MORE INTERESTED IN A PEACE TREATY, AND THERE WILL BE A SECOND ROUND OF OHIRA/ GROMYKO TALKS. AS FOR SIBERIA, THE JAPANESE ARE ADOPTING A PRUDENT ATTITUDE, AND ARE STILL AT THE STAGE OF MAKING STUDIES. THE GOJ IS NOT COMMITTED TO ANYTHING.

7. INDOCHINA. ON INDOCHINA, THE FRENCH GAVE THEIR POINT OF VIEW FIRST. THE PARIS AGREEMENTS AND THE INTER
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PAGE 01 PARIS 13109 02 OF 02 121401 Z

42

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 PARIS 13109

9. FRANCO/ JAPANESE ECONOMIC RELATIONS. THE FRENCH SAID THAT IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR THE FRENCH TO GET INTO THE JAPANESE MARKET, BOTH FOR EXPORTS AND FOR INVESTMENTS. THEY HOPED THAT THE GOJ WOULD PUSH ITS POLICY OF LIBERAL- IZATION. THE JAPANESE SIDE SAID THAT WHILE THIS WAS TRUE A FEW YEARS AGO, THERE HAD BEEN CONSIDERABLE DEVELOPMENTS SINCE AND THE SITUATION WAS ALREADY MORE FAVORABLE FOR FRENCH EXPORTS TO JAPAN. THE JAPANESE SAID THAT THEY ALSO

HOPED THAT THE FRENCH WOULD VIEW THIS SITUATION AS ONE OF RECIPROCITY AND WOULD SIMILARLY IMPROVE THE PROSPECTS FOR JAPANESE INVESTMENTS IN FRANCE. THEY ALSO DISCUSSED JAPANESE/ FRENCH COOPERATION IN PROVIDING AID TO THE THIRD WORLD.

10. KISSINGER SPEECH. ALTHOUGH THERE WAS NO AGENDA TOPIC FOR THE KISSINGER PROPOSAL, THE SUBJECT AROSE MANY TIMES IN THE COURSE OF OTHER DISCUSSIONS. THE FRENCH SAID THAT THE KISSINGER PROPOSAL WAS VERY ABSTRACT AND VERY VAGUE.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 13109 02 OF 02 121401 Z

HOWEVER, THEY WELCOMED THE IDEA AND SAW THAT THERE WERE INDEED PHILOSOPHIC TIES BETWEEN THE US AND WESTERN EUROPE, BUT IT WAS NECESSARY TO EXAMINE CLOSELY WHAT WOULD BE INVOLVED IN PRACTICE. THEY THERE FORE APPROACHED THE PROPOSAL WITH RESERVE. THE JAPANESE SIDE ALSO SAID THAT THEY SHARED THIS POINT OF VIEW: THEY WELCOMED THE PROPOSAL, BUT THOUGHT THAT IT SHOULD BE STUDIED IN DETAIL.
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